

From: Cost-Research
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Microsoft has done more for the world economy and the way we work than any other company in history, and now you want to punish them. This reminds me of the old kids game King of the Mountain. Once you see someone on top you try to knock them off it makes you popular, and that is what the DOJ is trying to do. These great lawyers are not doing this for the best of the people. They are doing this for very selfish reasons, they are doing this to:

1. Make a name for them self's so that later in private practice can say yes "I took on Microsoft".
2. Help a few cry baby companies that can't compete in the market place and don't amount to a hill of beans.
3. Make money for themselves now, and for the future.
4. Get their name publicized.

If Microsoft was as bad as some of the lawyers are trying to make them out to be, all the states would have joined the legal action. As it turned out some did not join because Microsoft is an OK company, others walked away in mid stream, others feel they have taken this as far as they should. How can you not draw any other conclusion? What makes some state attorney generals think that their state is better than other states? The only reason they want to keep legal action going is to keep their name out there. They are not doing it for me or anyone I know. It is too bad that a handful of lawyers can create this kind of mess under the protection of our legal system umbrella. A simple vote of all the United States attorney generals which would have represented all the people could have solved the problem. As it is now just a handful of lawyers can keep this thing going for their own benefit.

The small dollar price we all paid for being able to work under one world wide standard is nothing short of amazing. Anybody that feels they been over charged for the operating system is not in touch with reality. Before Microsoft became Microsoft they could have come the all the US citizens and said, for a donation of \$200.00 we will write a universally compatible computer program and people would have donated to

get this wonderful technology. When computers first started we had a number of operating systems, none compatible with each other. You had to buy programs and operating systems to match, which was a nightmare. We learned from the television industry which today has multiple systems, none compatible with each other. Try sending a video camera tape or VCR tape to Europe, it will not work. The same applies to other parts of the world. But today you can write and send a computer program or e-mail to any part of the world and it works. You can download computer programs to and from any part of the world and it works and the DOJ is messing with this. Not even Netscape browser is compatible with many downloads. Many programmers will not even write websites to include Netscape because it is quirky. Anyway I think we should leave Microsoft alone and let them invent new technologies rather than having to battle over what they can or cannot invent.

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